

Boston, Sept. 20, 1869.

Dear Sir:

I thank you for your letter, approving of my article in the Independent, condemnatory of the late international boat race, &c. I have received similar letters from Hon. Gerrit Smith, Gen. Neal Dow, and others. On the other hand, Henry Ward Beecher, the exuberance of whose animal nature is sometimes too strong for his spiritual mastery, publicly expresses his approval of the race, and avows that his sadness at the result was quite equal to that expressed by Mr. Tilton!

The question is not as to physical training, whether by rowing or any other process, but as to challenges and struggles between those whose motive is a vain-glorious triumph; leading to rivalries dangerous to health, and productive of much demoralization through betting, drinking, &c.









